

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A salt of a basic-reacting amino acid with at least one acidic-reacting sweetener, wherein said amino acid and sweetener are present in a discrete, stoichiometric molecular ratio of either 1:1 or 1:2, with the proviso that said sweeteners may be the same or different when the molecular ratio is 1:2.
2. (Original) A salt as claimed in claim 1, wherein the amino acid is arginine, lysine, histidine, tryptophan or ornithine.
3. (Original) A salt as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sweetener is selected from one or more of the following sweeteners: acesulfame, aspartame, alitame, cyclamate, glycyrrhizin, neotame, saccharin and gluconic acid or gluconate.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently Amended) A salt as claimed in claim ~~5~~ 1, wherein two different sweeteners are present in the molecule.
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)